P.S. I have no time to run this over }
Pray excuse the defects
I enclose stamp.

Leicester.
Nov. 29. 1871.

Dear Mr. Webb,

I have little doubt that you will have heard from Richard, some days before this gets to you, — no doubt whatever that he has written to you, — but as Mr. May had a note from him yesterday, I think it well to mention the fact to you. It was dated S. F. Nov. 19th, & was written in good spirits & health. He had had however a tedious voyage across the great Pacific, & seemed very glad to be in S. F. again, — where he had met his Cousin Edmund Harvey. He arrived in S. F., as nearly as we make out, one of the last days of October, having lived for a week or two before, he says, "chiefly on pea-soup & cocoa-nuts"! — a curious combination, surely, but not bad living; & he says his friends tell him he looks the better for it! He acknowledged a letter from you, which came here in my absence & Mrs. M. forwarded.

Day before yesterday I got yr. note of the 13th Nov. The business of the drafts, to £50, seems to be all correct.

I have not however heard from Gay, as I ought to have, since sending to him your £10, bill, as I wrote you a week since I had done. After some delay, & writing twice to him, (as well as to O. Johnson), I got a letter from him; & of such a character as to determine me to send him the draft. I sent his letter to you, that you might have the facts just as I had them. — Thank you for sympathy with me, on the score of new teeth & lame jaw. There is a steady improvement, and a good degree of comfort again. Thank you for stamps — all right. I am at a loss what to say to you, about "the Graphic" — lest you should be moved to renew it to us. But the truth is, on this side of the Water, universally so far as I know, the "G." is accounted the handsomest & completest illustd paper ever seen. Very much that is our opinion of it. "Harper's" & "Every Saturday" here have kept up chiefly (with exception of Nast's caric.s in the former) by copying, (as to illustrations,) the Graphic's pictures. Geo. Wm. Curtis's editorials give a distinctive character to "Harper's Weekly", far beyond what any other illust. paper has, so far as my knowledge of them goes. But the

which were specials & temporary

"they ought to have known better than follow with adulation anybody. — A large proportion of them, however, had not been Abol.ts — or only eleventh hour ones — & knew no better than to be especially zealous & noisy, just when noise was not wanted — when the whole country was listening & eager, & was only confused by their incessant clamor.

Many were newly-enfranchised colored men, unaccustomed to the consideration which W. P.'s friends ostentatiously extended to them, & are far less to blame than they. W. P. has been steadily falling, since the War, in true power. Yrs. truly, S. May Jr.

"Graphic" has given a great deal of information, in a very readable way. So I can't let you disparage yr. handsome & welcome gift. It has been long continued to us, & much enjoyed. One & all of us thank you for it. Let it rest just there, with no other thought than that it has been one of the many devices, you have so pleasantly used, to assure us of your regard and remembrance. — As you say, T. Nast's pictures on the Tammany Ring have been an exceedingly valuable element in the work of upsetting that cabal of scoundrels. Thousands have been informed, & led to action, by them, who never wd. have cared a straw for articles in the Tribune, Herald, &c. nor even for the figures & facts which the Times, almost daily for months, gave to the public. My son Edwd. & his bright wife left us on Thursday last (23d.) for their far-away home. Now, within 30 min., we have first despatch from them — at Omaha in Nebraska — to wh. point they had gone promptly & most comfortably. On entering the Rocky Mts., which they wd. do soon after passing Cheyenne (on the western boundary of Nebraska), they would encounter deep snow, I'm sorry to say. Such has been the tenor of the teleg. despatches for the past 3 days, and most fully confirmed this morning,

they ought to have known better than follow with adulation anybody — & keep suspicious of them, however, was ag'st Tam. at 1st — or only eleventh hour ones — & knew no better than to be specially zealous & noisy, just when noise was not wanted — when the whole country was listening & eager, & was only confused by their incessant clamor.

Ms. B.1.6 v.11 p.21

the train from the West having arrived at Cheyenne ~~yester~~ on Monday, 27th, twenty seven hours behind time. — Edward reports the road, from Chicago to Omaha, as the b he ever rode over, for smoothness & comfort, — much surpassing anything he knows hereabouts; & their equip-ment is known to be much superior, not merely for elega but for various accommodation, use, & comfort of travelle We shall eagerly watch for news, as to how they get over the R. Mts, thro' Utah, & over the Sierra Nevada, where the Sn is extremely deep for the season.

— You doubtless have heard from some one, th our friend Mrs. Bertody (Mattie B.'s Mother) has been nearly a year past undergoing treatment for a cancerous tumour in the breast. She, to some extent, & her daughter more, have kept up unabated hope and faith until lately. Some 10 days ago the disease took a sudden for the worse, and on the eve. of the 21st, our dear f died, — consciously & willingly, but to the unspeakable g of her daughter, to whom it seems as if everything be gone from her, in the departure of her Mother. The fu Company, with the body, came to Leicester last Sat. m when there were services at the Church, and a brief one a Grave. Mattie B. came, with some relatives, to our hou ~~there~~ for an hour or more, & then returned, heartbroken, to D where her Mother died. This death touches us very nearly. — Our neighbour, Rev. Dr. Nelson, is very low, & is not expected live many days. The veteran Mr. Emerson continues as u but longs to depart. — Tomorrow will be our Annu "Thanksgiving" day. We have a small gathering — My son Ruf & a nephew (John P. M.) are to be the only additions to our own h

— I thank you very much for that passage from the "Golden Age" about W. Phillips. I had not seen or heard of it. It is not only forcible, but

to the letter I think. There were, as you say, a small crowd of blind worshippers of W. P. after Slavery was dead, both men & women, who injured him, & whom he injured. I think Tilton was one of them. Having been bred in the Antislavery school,